

Dockets Management Branch HFA-305
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852
Docket No. 99D-0557

4517 '00 JAN 27 P1:52

To Whom it May Concern,

On April 6, 1999, the Food & Drug Administration published a "Guidance for Industry" in the *Federal Register* on "Public Health Issues Posed by the Use of Nonhuman Primate Xenografts in Humans." In the guidance, the FDA again acknowledges the dangers of using nonhuman primates as donors in xenotransplants. Essentially, the FDA is saying that it would not approve any primate xenografts at this time, but is encouraging further research on primates to study virus transmission to humans. However, the FDA is not ruling out other species, like pigs, in xenotransplants.

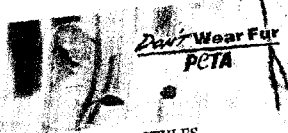
I, personally, am against any xenotransplant research and think that:

- Responsible health authorities would ban all xenotransplants outright, regardless of the species, particularly because the threats of inter-species virus transmission.
- Pigs are being considered as the source animals of choice for xenotransplants. But there is no evidence that pigs are any safer than nonhuman primate viruses.
- There are safer and more humane alternatives to xenotransplantation, such as aggressively promoting preventive medicine and increasing human organ donation rates.
- Humans do not have the right to exploit animals for their organs.

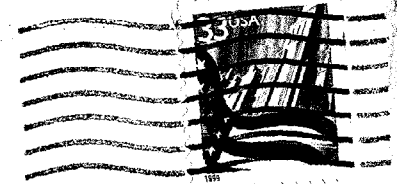
Sincerely,
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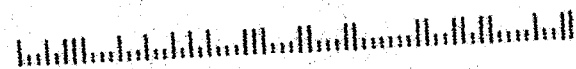


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Non-violence leads to the highest ethics which is the goal of all evolution. Until we stop harming all other living beings, we are still savages.



— Thomas Edison

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